

Elective Training Program

Wilderness Advanced First Aid (WAFA)

Description: This training is the first component of the highly sought after Wilderness First Responder Certification. If you enjoy the outdoors and are interested in pursuing employment as a river raft guide, wilderness ranger, ski patroller, or a hiking guide this training is for you! Upon completing all the requirements of this intense four day training you will be issued a Wilderness Advanced First Aid Certification. This certification alone will open doors for you! Wilderness Medical Associates, the service contractor, courses are widely considered the most complete medical training for outdoor professionals. Their courses are preferred by such organizations as Outward Bound, The National Park Service, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation, many colleges and universities, and the FBI. As Canoe Magazine stated, "Wilderness Medical Associates has become the de facto standard in wilderness medical training". Attend this training and you will see why!

Estuarine Ecology

Description: Spend four days with the staff of Padilla Bay Estuarine Reserve studying the importance of the nation's estuarine environment. You will take a "hands-on" approach to the study of the marine environment as you learn about nutrient cycling, survey protocol, habitat mapping and utilization, water quality sampling, surface currents, plant productivity, and marine life. This hands-on training will include some boat time (bring your Dramamine) conducting sampling in the estuarine environment. Lodging and/or groceries will be provided to those from outside the immediate (1-hour) area. Don't procrastinate on signing up for this one, limited room!

GIS/GPS/Orienteering/Natural Resource Management

Description: Spend four days learning how to incorporate GIS and GPS into natural resource management. This class will be a combination of in-class and field based seminars that will take a hands-on approach to learning! It will include a two-night backpacking trip into the wilds of the northwest to study resource management issues with an emphasis on federal land management policy. Evening classes may include orienteering (map and compass work), wilderness survival, old growth ecology, celestial navigation, and/or botany. The last day culminates with a traditional Native American "steam-pit" cookout that features trout cooked under-ground, nettle tea, acorn muffins (you will prepare), and other northwest "natural" delicacies. A true feast!!

Chain Saw Type A Certification

Description: Spend four days with certified staff learning the skills in bucking, limbing and falling timber. This will be a hands-on class with lots of saw time. Participants will be responsible for completing a series of basic competencies during this class to attain certification. This class will also include a comprehensive saw maintenance segment offered by STIHL Northwest, the leading chainsaw manufacturer! You must have access to a well-maintained chain saw and associated safety equipment to participate in this training. This equipment can be obtained from your crew supervisor. If you are looking at future employment working with DNR or the USFS, this may be the class for you!

Wildland Fire Suppression Certification (FFT-2)

Description: This introductory course is designed to train entry-level firefighters, as well as, refresh the structural and Wildland fire fighter. Students will be introduced to and gain knowledge of the basic incident management organization, fire fighting techniques, suppression equipment, safety, strategy/ tactics, along with fire behavior. If weather permits, field exercises will be performed for valuable hands-on training. Completion of this training will result in the issuance of the Federal "Red Card" Certification (FFT-2).

Proper Functioning Condition (Watershed Analysis) & Fisheries Management

Description: Proper functioning condition (PFC) is an assessment tool which has been developed in cooperation with many individuals, interest groups, and state and federal agencies. It provides the common language and communication tool that invites participation from the widest group of affected interests, both inside and outside government to help "fix the creeks." PFC is a qualitative approach supported by quantitative science. This is a highly regarded training that will incorporate two-days of PFC Training followed by two-days of hands-on fisheries management instruction. Space is extremely limited! Sign up quickly.